

How to Learn  
The  
Morse Code  
in  
Thirty Minutes  
and  
Remember It .

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## Note.

THE Author has put forth a claim to teach the Morse Code in half an hour, and considers it a conservative estimate. Pupils entirely ignorant of the code have picked it up in half the time and passed a test after fifteen minutes' instruction.

The Author will be glad to receive any recommendations for improvement from practical signallers.

ERNEST NICHOLSON.

# THE MORSE CODE

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## ALPHABET.

A	· —	N	— ·
B	— · · ·	O	— — —
C	— · — ·	P	· — — ·
D	— · ·	Q	— — · —
E	·	R	· — ·
F	· · — ·	S	· · ·
G	— — ·	T	—
H	· · · ·	U	· · —
I	· ·	V	· · · —
J	· — — —	W	· — —
K	— · —	X	— · · —
L	· — · ·	Y	— · — —
M	— —	Z	— — · ·

It is advisable first to read this treatise through, to get the idea of the method. Then in 20 minutes it should be fixed in your mind by study.

## THE METHOD EXPLAINED.

To fix the Morse signs in the brain, recourse is had to words formed to do a double duty, the LAST letter in the word always being Morsed by exactly the *reversed* Morse-sign used for the FIRST letter of the word.

EXAMPLE: Take the Morse for **F**, which is dot, dot, dash dot. We use the word "fuel" to memorize **F**, because **L** at the end is Morsed by the *reversal* of the Morse **F**, and so **L** is dot, dash, dot, dot. **F** • • — • **L** • — • •

The words are phrased for committal to memory.

There are four sections: (1) The Simple Opposites, so called owing to the Morse signs being either a dot or dots, or a dash or dashes; (2) the Mixed Opposites, so called because dots and dashes are used together; (3) the Sandwiches, so called because the dot or dots, or dash and dashes, are sandwiched between each other—dot, dash, dot; dash, dot, dash—and so forth; (4) letters with no Opposites—there are only three; and lastly, the Numerals.

You need not trouble about alphabet, or alphabetical order—just learn the sentences.

## THE SIMPLE OPPOSITES.

Sentence:—Ate 'im so hot.

Letters:—ET IM SO H.

1. E is *one* dot. T is one dash.
2. I is *two* dots. M is two dashes.
3. S is *three* dots. O is three dashes.
4. H is *four* dots.

• / — • • / — — • • • / — — — • • • • / — — — / —  
 E T I M S O H O T

You have learnt seven letters here almost at a glance.

## THE MIXED OPPOSITES.

Sentence:—Ann Bee Vee, d'you feel Great War 'cutely? (Note Q sound in 'cutely.)

Letters:—AN, BV, DU, FL, GW, QY.

AnN	A • —	N — •
BeeVee	B — • • •	V • • • —
D'yoU	D — • •	U • • —
FeelL	F • • — •	L • — • •
Great War	G — — •	W • — —
Q'tel Y	Q — — • —	Y — • — —

You will easily remember A as “dot, dash,” because it is the first letter of the alphabet, and Morse Code is a “dot dash” code.

B is best memorized by its letter shape, one upright and three horizontal lines standing for its dash and three dots = 13 = B.

**D** by the Latin *duo*—two; and so **D** has only dash and two dots.

**F** and **L** are the most difficult letters to remember. The word **FueL** makes it quite easy. **F**=**UE** in Morse. **U** • • — **E** • = **F** • • — •. As **L** is the opposite to **F**, it is quite easily remembered.

To memorize **G** and **Q**, either remember **G**, **M E** [in Morse — — (**M**), • (**E**)]; **Q**, **M E T** [in Morse — — (**M**), • (**E**), — (**T**)]; or **G** by the word Ger-man-y; two long sounds and a short one—two dashes and a dot.

**Q** by calling to mind the long food queues, and that the sign for **Q** is as **G**, but with a dash added.

The letters **N V U L W Y** are the Opposites. Thus another dozen letters are learned.

## THE SANDWICHES.

Sentence:—Kaiser pax.

Letters:—**K R P X**.

We and our Allies are dots: the enemy are dashes.

Kaiser began war and hemmed us in, so **K**, which begins Kaiser, is: dash, dot, dash.

**R** is **END** of Kaiser, so we have him; **R** is therefore: dot, dash, dot.

**P** is beginning of peace, for which enemy is forced to sue, because Allies have surrounded him; therefore **P** is: dot, dash, dash, dot.

**X** is end of peace, with Allies in the centre, sending dismissed enemy armies home; therefore **X** is: dash, dot, dot, dash.

**K** — • — (aise)

**R** • — •

**P** • — — • (a)

**X** — • • —

Here again the end letter of the word is the reverse of the Morse for the initial letter.

## THE OUTSIDERS.

These are the letters **C**, **Z**, **J**, for which there are no Opposites. We learn them by the *sound* of **C Z**, memorized as "Seize," and the **J** by "Jeremiah."

Sentence :—Seize Jeremiah.

Letters :— **C Z J**.

**C** — • — •

**Z** — — • •

**J** • — — —

**C** is dash, dot repeated. **Z** is harsh **C** sound, so is double-dash, double-dot, which is a sort of emphasized **C**. **C**, **Z**, and **J** each have four Morse signs.



**J** is memorized as Je-re-mi-ah—one short sound (dot), and three long sounds (dashes).

**C** can also be memorized by word CaNNe (in Morse **N**=—•, double **N**=—•—• = **C**). **Z** by MI (in Morse **M**=— —, **I**=••). **J** by AM [in Morse **A**=•—, **M**=— — (**JAM**)].

## SHORT NUMERALS.

1	•—	6	—••••
2	••—	7	—•••
3	•••—	8	—••
4	••••—	9	—•
5	•	0	—

One to 5 begin with the dot.

Six to nought begin with the dash.

Treat the dash as TEN.

1	is one	out of ten	•—
2	is two	„ „ „	••—
3	is three	„ „ „	•••—
4	is four	„ „ „	••••—
5	is the pivot	•	one dot
6	is ten	MINUS four	—••••
7	is ten	„ three	—•••
8	is ten	„ two	—••
9	is ten	„ one	—•
0	is minus		—

## NUMERALS.

1	• — — — —	6	— • • • • •
2	• • — — —	7	— — — • • •
3	• • • — —	8	— — — — • •
4	• • • • —	9	— — — — — •
5	• • • • •	0	— — — — — —

*Note.*—5 = • • • • • (5 dots).

0 = — — — — — (5 dashes).

<sup>4</sup>  
6 the same as the Short Numerals

1 and 9, 2 and 8, 3 and 7 are *Opposites*.

Thus—

1	• — — — —	9	— — — — — •
2	• • — — —	8	— — — — • •
3	• • • — —	7	— — — • • •

## “THE CHECK” Figures v. Letters.

A for 1	6 for 6
U „ 2	B „ 7
V „ 3	D „ 8
4 „ 4	N „ 9
E „ 5	T „ 0

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